

HEAD SLIDER AND DISK DRIVE UNIT EMPLOYING THE SAME

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is provided a head slider for reducing a
sticking force or stiction between the head slider and a
10 disk in a disk drive unit in which a difference in level
between an air bearing and a head portion is small when
the disk rotates in a reverse direction. Air bearing
portions having flat top surfaces are formed in parallel
with each other on both sides of a side of a slider which
15 flies above the disk at an air outflow end of the slider.
A head portion comprising head elements and a protection
film for protecting the head elements is provided at an
air outflow end of one of the air bearing portions, while
a dummy head portion comprising only a protection film is
20 provided at an air outflow end of the other air bearing
portion. Top surfaces of the head portion and the dummy
head portion are formed lower by a step than top surfaces
of the air bearing portions. The top surfaces of the
head portion and the dummy head portion on the air
25 outflow ends are formed lower than the top surfaces
thereof adjacent to the air bearing portions, whereby the
contact resistance between the head slider and the disk
resulting when the disk rotates in the reverse direction
is reduced.